ECON 2301: PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS
Course Syllabus
Fall 2020

Section 010: 12:30p.m.-1:45p.m. MW Rassman Business 266
Section 020: 3:30p.m.-4:45p.m. TR Rassman Business 112

Instructor: Dr. Edwar E. Escalante
Email: eescalante@angelo.edu
Office: Rassman Business 102A
Office Hours (Zoom, Whatsapp, Facebook, texting, email):
MW: 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
TR: 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM or by appointment

Course Syllabus Statement on Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class At Angelo State University

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

Textbook:

Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok, Modern Principles: Macroeconomics, Fourth Edition, Launchpad access

**The physical version of the textbook is strictly optional, but the online version is required. The Launchpad access (online code) will give you access to the electronic version of book also and required online material.**

Any additional readings will be placed on the course Blackboard site.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course introduces students to the economic way of thinking and the fundamental tools of macroeconomic analysis and the factors that influence them. Special emphasis is placed on how market and political institutions influence how humans respond to the scarcity of resources. The course makes heavy use of graphical analysis and presupposes knowledge of algebra.

**GRADING**

Grades will be assigned according to students’ final scores:

- 90+ A
- 80-89.9 B
- 70-79.9 C
- 60-69.9 D
- 59.9 or less F

Please do not ask me to raise your grade. I never – NEVER! – grant such requests. I am not in the business of giving grades: I merely report the grade that you earn.

Final scores are broken down into the following components:

- **Quiz Online** 50% (online)
- **Exams** 50%

*Hybrid Class:* Due to recent regulations this class will be hybrid. This means that I will be teaching face to face all classes and I will be recording all the sessions and uploading the videos on Blackboard. However, you will be required to attend physically only once a week. The other day that you are not attending physically you will have the option to see the session virtually. It will be asynchronous so you can watch the recorded session at your most convenient time. I do not take roll. You're an adult. However, I strongly urge you to attend each and every class that you are able, from beginning to end.

*Online Quiz:* It should be done prior to the lecture. It will be about reading the book or videos. You need the launchpad access to complete these quizzes. For more information see the section on using Launchpad below. I will drop the two lowest grades from this category. They are usually 30 quizzes that you will take during the class.

*Exams:* There will two midterms and a final. The final will be comprehensive and count for two exam grades. Any student with an ‘A’ before the final exam can skip the final exam and receive an A for the course. If you take the final, I will drop the lowest 1 (of 4) exam grades.

*Extra Credit Quiz:* This pop extra quiz questions will be in class. Only two possible results: 100 or 0. They will replace your lower-than-100 scores in the online quiz at the end of the semester. Occasionally I will also assign extra quizzes online. They will serve as a study guide for the exams and if you get 100, they will replace your any of regular online quizzes too at the end of the semester. They will be graded on Blackboard.
Special Extra Credits: These will be announced in class, if applicable. They will replace your online quizzes if they are lower than 100. However, I also place a lot of consideration on these credits at the end of the class to calculate Letter grades. We will have three conferences during this semester. I strongly suggest you attend these events since they may define your grade at the end of the semester. They are VERY important. Given the current constraints they may require some reservation.

A grade of zero will be given for any exam or quiz missed. If the exam was missed for a University-excused reason (i.e., representing the University in a competition, a health emergency, or a family emergency) the student will have the opportunity to make up the exam or replace that grade with the final exam. Otherwise, the grade of zero will remain.

CLASSROOM RULES AND BEHAVIOR

Students are expected to show respect to classmates, instructors, and especially guest speakers. These are rules that I will enforce during this class:

1. Do not talk during class meetings. Talking is disruptive to the instructor and to your fellow classmates.
2. Do not arrive late to class and do not leave the classroom during class meetings. Exceptions may occur for medical emergency, physiological urgency or situations where prior instructor approval has been granted.
3. Do not use (including viewing of) communication devices (phones, iPad, etc) during class meetings. All electronic devices should be silenced during class meetings. This includes laptops.
4. Do not read/view other unassigned materials (newspapers, magazines, etc,) during class meetings.
5. Do not exhibit disruptive posture during class meetings. e.g. sleeping, slouching, laying, resting feet/head on furniture, etc.
6. Do not use notebook computers during class meetings unless prior instructor approval has been granted.
7. Do not bring/use food and/or tobacco products during classroom meetings unless prior instructor approval has been granted.

INFORMATION ON USING LAUNCHPAD FOR ECO 2301

Our textbook for this class is the Launchpad version of Cowen and Tabarrok, Modern Principles of Macroeconomics, 4th edition. The online version includes both the text from the physical book and quizzes, exercises, etc. I recommend you start with the trial version for the first few weeks of class. You should be able to purchase access online or buy an access code in the bookstore.

Two parts of the course will be run on Launchpad, Reading and Homework. You will usually receive one grade in each category for every unit, and most units correspond to one chapter in the textbook.
READING ASSIGNMENTS ON LAUNCHPAD

Doing the readings ahead of time is vital for this course. Reading grades are either 100% (if you did the work) or 0% (if you didn’t). They are assigned by Launchpad. I am not able to reopen the assignment for particular cases. I strongly advise you do the assignments with proper anticipation. You will receive a reading grade (online quiz) for most units that we cover. Your reading quiz will usually be based on the Learning Curve assessment in Launchpad. Learning Curve lets you keep answer questions until you achieve a predetermined score, which will correspond to a 100. **You should read the chapter before attempting the Learning Curve.** Usually, you will also wait until after the first week to go ahead with the assignments.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS ON LAUNCHPAD

For each unit there will be a short quiz (online quiz also) over the material covered in the book and lectures. These are referred to as Graded Homework in Launchpad. They will be due after the last lecture in each unit. **You should complete the quizzes by yourself.** They are not a group activity.

**Homework and reading assignments are the online quizzes**

MR UNIVERSITY

The creators of your textbook also have an online version of their macro course at MRUniversity.com. Some videos are assigned as part of the course material, but there are many more on the site that will be helpful for any concepts you are struggling with.

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

**You are responsible** for securing access to a reliable computer & network to do the assignments, such as a school computer lab. If you have a shaky internet connection at home, or school, or even luck is not with you, make time to do your work on campus.

Whenever you finish a Launchpad assignment, you should take a screenshot that indicates that the assignment is complete. Make sure to capture the date and time. Save these screenshots in a folder until the end of the semester. We will update you on your grades after each exam and before the final. If your grades do not come through correctly, email me (eescalante@angelo.edu) the appropriate screen shot so that I can correct the grade. No screen shot, no grade correction.

Here's how to take a screenshot on Windows

Here's how to take a screenshot on a Mac
TENTATIVE OUTLINE AND ASSOCIATED TEXTBOOK CHAPTERS

This is a *tentative* list of topics and readings. More precise reading assignments will be given over the course of the semester. The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1 (Aug 17-20)</td>
<td>Big Ideas and Principles</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Power of Trade</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2 (Aug 24-27)</td>
<td>Supply and Demand</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3 (Aug 31-Sep 03)</td>
<td>Equilibrium and Dynamics</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Price Ceilings and Floors</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4 (Sep 07-10)</td>
<td>International Trade</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Choice</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5 (Sep 14-17)</td>
<td>Public Choice</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Midterm 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6 (Sep 21-24)</td>
<td>Financial System</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stock Market</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7 (Sep 28-Oct 01)</td>
<td>Unemployment and Labor Force</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8 (Oct 05-08)</td>
<td>Inflation &amp; Money</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9 (Oct 12-15)</td>
<td>Business fluctuations</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10 (Oct 19-22)</td>
<td>The Federal Reserve</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Midterm 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11 (Oct 26-29)</td>
<td>Monetary Policy</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fiscal Policy</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12 (Nov 02-05)</td>
<td>GDP and Progress</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economic Growth</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13 (Nov 09-12)</td>
<td>Economic Growth</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Growth, Capital and Ideas</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14 (Nov 16-19)</td>
<td>Growth, Capital and Ideas</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Review</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Nov 20 (Section 010)</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM @ 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>Nov 24 (Section 020)</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM @ 3:30 pm</td>
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Course Policies

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the university Academic Honor Code, which is in both print and web versions of the ASU Student Handbook.

Academic integrity is expected. This includes, but is not limited to, any form of cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized sharing of work, or unauthorized possession of course materials. The professor assumes that all students can be trusted. Please do no violate this trust. Violation of academic integrity will result in a failing grade for the course.

It is the professor’s intention to be as fair and impartial as is humanly possible. Therefore, all students will be asked to adhere to the same set of guidelines and rules UNLESS there are disabilities or documented extenuating circumstances that have been discussed with the professor and the Student Life Office. Please make sure you inform the professor as soon as any situation arises. Do NOT wait until the problem is compounded by poor class performance, poor attendance, etc.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Code of Ethics

Students, faculty, administrators and professional staff of the Norris-Vincent College of Business should always:

- Be forthright and truthful in dealings with all stakeholders
- Take responsibility for one’s actions and decisions
- Serve as an example of ethical decision-making and behavior to others
- Admit errors when they occur, without trying to conceal them
- Respect the basic dignity of others by treating them as one would wish to be treated
**Courtesy and Respect**

Courtesy and respect are essential ingredients to this course. We respect each other's opinions and respect others' points of view at all times while in our class sessions. The use of profanity and harassment of any form is strictly prohibited (Zero Tolerance), as are those remarks concerning one's ethnicity, lifestyle, religion, etc., violations of these rules will result in appropriate disciplinary actions.

**Accommodations for Disability**

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing studentservices@angelo.edu, or by contacting:

Mrs. Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Development  
Office of Student Affairs  
University Center, Suite 112  
325-942-2047 Office  
325-942-2211 FAX  
Dallas.Swafford@angelo.edu

**Title IX**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

- Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form  
- Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210  
- Phone: 325-942-2022  
- Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).
For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Student absence for religious holidays**

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedures (OP 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day), a student who intends to miss class to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Course Drop**

To view information about how to drop this course or to calculate important dates relevant to dropping this course, you can visit [http://www.angelo.edu/services/registrars_office/course_drop_provisions.php](http://www.angelo.edu/services/registrars_office/course_drop_provisions.php).

**Incomplete as a Course grade**

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.11 Grading Procedures), the grade "I" is given when the student is unable to complete the course because of illness or personal misfortune. For undergraduates, an "I" that is not removed before the end of the next long semester automatically becomes an "F". A graduate student will be allowed one year to remove a grade of "I" before it automatically becomes an "F". To graduate from ASU, a student must complete all "I's".

**Grade Appeal Process**

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedures (OP 10.03 Student Grade Grievances), a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, has experienced inequitable evaluation procedures, or inappropriate grading practices, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the grade appeal process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see Operating Procedure 10.03 at: [http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14196-op-1003-grade-grievance](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14196-op-1003-grade-grievance).